

The Development of Ophthalmology in America, 1800 to 1870. By ALVIN A. HUBBELL, M.D., Ph.D. Chicago: W. T. Keener & Co., 1908.

This valuable little book gives a brief survey of the origin and development of this specialty in the United States and Canada. It describes the founding of the older hospitals and clinics in this branch, with sketches of the founders and leaders in ophthalmology up to 1870. Numerous illustrations add to its value.

Experimental Researches on Specific Therapeutics. By Prof. PAUL EHRLICH, M.D., D.Sc. Oxon., Director of the Königliches Institut für Experimentelle Therapie, Frankfurt. The Harben Lectures for 1907 of the Royal Institute of Public Health. New York: Paul B. Hoeber. 1909.

This little book is a reprint of the Harben Lectures delivered by the author, in 1907, before the Royal Institute of Public Health of England. The subjects discussed are "Immunity with Especial Reference to the Relations existing between the Distribution and the Action of Antigens," "The Atreptic Function," and "Chemo-Therapeutic Studies on Trypanosomes."

Hay-Fever, Hay-Asthma, Its Causes, Diagnosis and Treatment. By WILLIAM LLOYD, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, etc. Second edition. London: Henry J. Glaisher. Chicago: W. T. Keener & Co. 1908.

This book is a brief monograph of about one hundred pages on hay-fever, and discusses opinions as to its causation, its predisposing causes, its symptoms and treatment. There is also a chapter of illustrative cases which adds to the practical value of the book. Twenty-six cases are recorded in very considerable detail. In looking through this volume we are somewhat impressed to see that no especial attention is given to the nervous system as a predisposing cause. Sufficient evidence is accumulating to show that hay-fever may in some instances be regarded as a pure neurosis, or at least as having many neurotic elements. Apart from this omission the book is an excellent presentation of the present state of our knowledge on this prevalent and annoying affection. It is encouraging to make note of Dr. Lloyd's opinion that if the directions given in his chapter under treatment are carefully followed, eighty per cent of cases of hay-fever and asthma may be cured. This treatment consists largely in local surgical procedures, with strict rules as to hygiene and avoidance of exciting causes.

The Heart and Sudden Death. By THEODORE FISHER, M.D., F.R.C.P., Assistant Physician to the East London Hospital for Children, etc. Illustrated. London: The Scientific Press, Ltd. 1908.

This small book of 53 pages is of value as giving the result of experience gained in the perform-

ance of nearly 2,500 autopsies. The subject-matter has for the most part been already published in the form of separate articles. As a pathological study of heart disease the brochure is certainly of distinct value and should help toward the elucidation of the oftentimes somewhat difficult question of the cause of sudden death. The text is supplemented by a number of illustrations, chiefly photographic.

Orthopedic Surgery for Practitioners. By HENRY L. TAYLOR, M.D., assisted by CHARLES OGILVY, M.D., and FRED H. ALBEE, M.D. Illustrated. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1909.

In an admirably written preface the author states the object of his book:

"It [the specialty of orthopedic surgery] owes an enormous debt to physicians, surgeons and pathologists. . . . If some of this indebtedness can be repaid by making the practical details of our art available in general practice, the aim of the work will be accomplished."

"The present work, containing the gist of twenty-five years of private and hospital experience in special practice, is constructed on foundations gained in close association with the late C. Fayette Taylor, than whom there never was a sounder or more inspiring teacher."

The book is well written, amply and sensibly illustrated and deserves a cordial welcome from the profession on account of the sound judgment and practical sense displayed, not to mention other excellent qualities, viz., clear statement and well-considered reasoning, not too common in medical writing.

The contributions to orthopedic surgery by the author's father are well-known and of inestimable value. This fact adds to the value of this publication, for the judgments of a son, after years of experience on the pioneer work of a distinguished father, are uncommon in medical literature. Henry Taylor has followed wisely the trail marked forty years ago by Charles Fayette Taylor.

The Commoner Diseases of the Eye. By CASEY A. WOOD, M.D., C.M., D.C.L., and THOMAS A. WOODRUFF, M.D., C.M., L.R.C.P. Third edition, enlarged and improved. Chicago: W. T. Keener & Co. 1907.

This is a book for the busy practitioner who is forced to treat common diseases of the eyes or wishes to know something about them without going through the larger treatises.

Spectacles and Eyeglasses. By R. J. PHILLIPS, M.D. Fourth edition, revised. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1908.

In its fourth edition this well-known book is revised and brought up to date. It describes the mounting and adjustment of lenses and gives much useful information about eyeglass and spectacle frames.